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Publishing the Truth, From Good Motives and For Justifiable Ends

Nick Philippi '06 delivers annual Josiah Bunting III Veterans Day Lecture

by Kaitlyn Fudge '23
Staff Writer

On Nov. 11 at 6:30 PM, Nick Philippi '06 delivered the seventh annual Josiah Bunting III Veterans Day Lecture in the Taylor Science Center, Kennedy Auditorium. The lecture was sponsored by the Alexander Hamilton Institute (AHI) Undergraduate Fellows Program. Philippi served nine years as an officer in the United States Marine Corps, predominantly as a UH-1Y helicopter pilot, and now works as a financial advisor in Boston.

Philippi began the lecture by discussing the different aspects of his career to outline the points he would make in his presentation. He put extra emphasis on the "Additional Information" section of his resume. He expressed his belief that section is the most important part of a resume because it makes one seem more personable and interesting to talk to. On his resume, Philippi said he includes, "Novice surfer, persistent golfer, rusty hockey player, avid Boston sports fan, and golden retriever enthusiast."

He then went on to discuss the importance of family in his life and the many factors that pushed him to join the Marines. He described a family lineage of service members, and said he felt that it was his calling to join the service. But he also said he knew that he was meant to go to college, so he made sure to get his degree at Hamilton first.

During the summers and between semesters on the Hill, Phillipi said he would attend boot camps like the Officer Candidate School. He added that being a member of Hamilton's men's hockey team prepared him for the physical tests he was put through at these camps.

After graduating from Hamilton, Philippi went on to training camp and eventually made the decision to go to flight school. After graduating from flight school, he enlisted in the Marines. Over the course of his nine years of service, he was deployed to Southeast Asia and Afghanistan. Although he was stationed in Afghanistan for many years, he said he "did not spend any time with [civilians in Afghanistan] [...] our goal was to provide guidance and leadership to the Afghan troops."

Philippi also went into detail about some of his greatest struggles during training and during service; he said one of the greatest challenges was the "debriefing" process. Debriefing meant reviewing what he did on a mission, why he did it, and what went wrong. Although he said the practice was nerve racking, he also felt it benefitted him most when he left the service and re-entered into civilian life. The self-assessment process enabled him to "think on the fly," he said, adding, "I think when I am working, the most important part is communication. I think the Marine Corps made me be able to clearly communicate with an individual or audience and have the ability to create a process to work around and to be a good listener."

Philippi eventually had to choose whether he wanted to remain in the Marines as a long-term career. Supported by his family and wife, he chose to instead attend MIT and earn a business degree. There he served on the Board of Veterans, who helped other veterans adjust to life after serving, with particular focus on attending college.

Phillipi described his role on the Board of Veterans as, "My most meaningful experience at MIT was helping the veterans. I was part of veterans club and I was the only Marine, so any marines that were applying got sent through me. I spent a lot of time looking through resumes, looking at essays.

"That's what I think makes our network of veterans so special is that our folks did it for us, so we turn around and do it for the next group."

Philippi added that he has noticed how the degree of support and welcoming for veterans returning from service has increased from prior years.

Concluding the lecture, he said, "Every service member has a different experience. Some saw combat, some wanted to see combat and didn't, some saw combat and wanted nothing to do with it. Some went willingly into the service, others were drafted or told to go. Some lost friends, and others did not. Some proudly served over 20 years and had to be dragged out, some were counting down the days until they could get out of the service."

His final message was to encourage students to think about service.

"This is my ask for all of you: consider service," he said. "In any capacity, it will force you to put something else before you."

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE

Philippi '06 served nine years as an officer in the US Marine Corps.

Students debrief from Town Hall at Student Assembly's ice cream social

by Jonina Mignon '21
News Editor

On Monday, Nov. 11, Hamilton College Student Assembly (SA) hosted an ice cream social, bringing together student representatives and their peers to connect and converse over frozen treats.

The event was held on the third floor of the Sadove Student Center, which SA representatives say was chosen because it is a large space, centralized on campus, and has couches. SA created an ice cream station along the wall featuring large containers filled with vanilla and chocolate ice cream and toppings like tiny marshmallows and crushed Oreos. SA members initially sat together at the table but soon began to walk about the room once interested students started showing up.

According to Ashley Garcia '22, SA's Publicity Director who spearheaded the event, the ice cream social had a great turn out.

"People from multiple class years came by to eat some delicious ice cream and get to know their representatives," she said. "I definitely believe that this event was effective, both in bringing students together and in holding important conversations."

SA decided to host the event to increase transparency between the Assembly and the student body. Garcia said SA believes that the best way to do so is to actively encourage productive conversations between all members of the community.

She emphasized this broad engagement as a "priority" of SA, saying, "Our goal is to represent students to the best of our ability and the only way that this is possible is if we're actively having conversations with them."

The ice cream social also served as a space to debrief and discuss the recent Town Hall on Nov. 4. Ahead of the event, students were polled on the topics they would most like to discuss, and mental health and sustainability concerns were chosen as the two key issues for the Town Hall.

At Monday's event, Garcia said "conversations about what we could improve and instill into upcoming Town Halls were held and taken into account," adding that SA wanted students to know that there was still discussion about the Town Hall and the issues discussed there were still relevant.

Garcia said it was important to SA to frame the ice cream social as informal so that students would feel comfortable talking about campus life with their representatives and stopping by for a quick chat.

"It was on the third floor of Sadove where couches were available for people to lay down if they wanted to," she said. "Overall, I thought the environment was extremely welcoming and inclusive."

Although there was concern about turnout for the event due to blizzard warnings and a drop in temperature, Garcia said, "Student Assembly was content with the turnout."

SMART creates art installation to raise awareness about latest Clery Report

by Danie Edwards '21
Staff Writer

On Oct. 29, Survivors Making Activism and Radical Transformation (SMART) created an art installation on Martin's Way as part of their efforts to support survivors of sexual assault on campus and beyond. In creating the event, the student-run organization drew a chalk outline of a body along the walkway outside of the Sadove Student Center and the Howard Diner for each victim in the recent release of Hamilton's Clery Report on the number of reported sexual assaults on campus.

The installation coincided with the release of the report, and, according to SMART representative Kahterine Crasta '21, group members felt that "the timing was right to do some type of activist project" and to bring community awareness to the details of the Clery Act.

The Clery Act is a federal law that requires college campuses to release data and statistics about on-campus safety, including Title IX reports. According to Director of Community Standards Catherine Berryman, this report includes information about reports of certain types of sexual crimes (rape, statutory rape, fondling, and incest) and domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking reported in the previous calendar year.

Crasta says a specific goal of the installation was to help students understand the contents of the Clery Act and the "prevalence of rape on this campus." SMART wanted to help raise awareness about the issue of sexual assault on campus with a high-visibility event. According to Crasta, SMART organization leadership "came up with the idea, created the posters and flyers, and outlined the bodies [themselves]" early that morning so that campus would see the artwork as they began their day.

Crasta says SMART members think the installation was successful because they "achieved [their] main goal of garnering attention around the issue of rape and sexual assault on this campus."

Another SMART member, who preferred to go unnamed, said, "The amount of support we got from the student body was incredible [...] Many people posted about the art installation on social media, and previous alums and members of SMART reached out to show their support as well."

Professor Nancy Rabinowitz of the Literature Department said she thought the installation "was necessary to remind people of what goes on at Hamilton, and indeed at other colleges like it."

Berryman and Dayna Campbell, Assistant Director of Community Standards, said they also want to encourage the Hamilton community to review this year's Clery Report and engage in conversations about the information it contains.

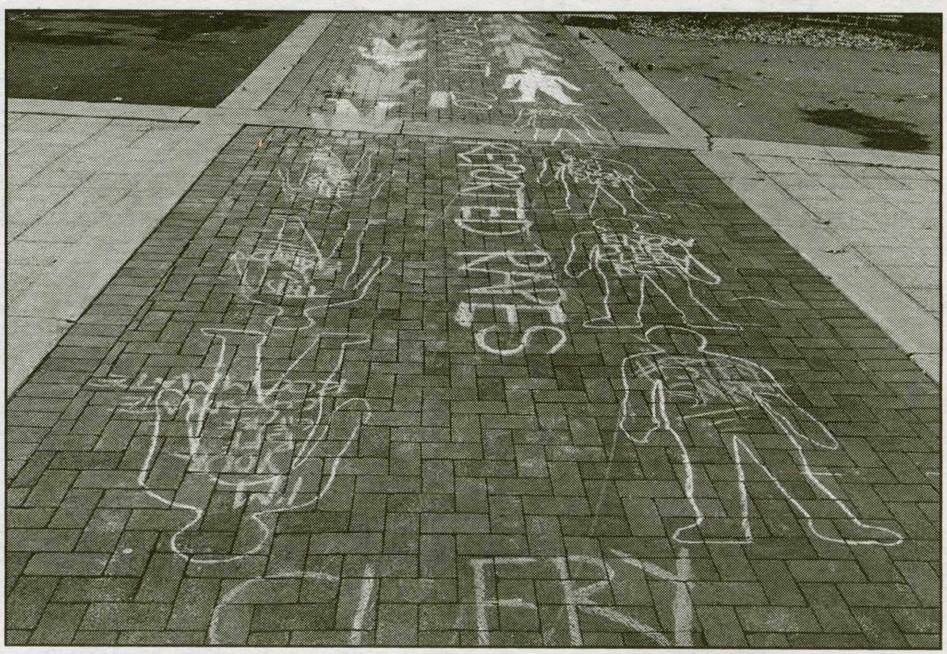

PHOTO COURTESY OF HENRY ZUCKERBERG '21

SMART drew a chalk outline for each victim in the recent release of the Clery Act report for Hamilton's campus.

"SMART's art installation is a part of this dialogue," Berryman said.

Overall, Crasta said SMART feels "happy that [its] installation sparked a conversation about rape culture on this campus."

Going forward, SMART says it plans to continue to bring issues of sexual assault and violence to light. One SMART member said that the organization "will continue to hold G-board meetings and do various activism projects in the future to keep raising awareness of rape culture on our campus. This will allow the awareness and encouragement that the Clery Act Art installation created to continue."

The community is encouraged to review the College's Harassment and Sexual Misconduct resources at: https://www.hamilton.edu/offices/hsmb.

2018-2019 Report on Harassment and Sexual Misconduct released

by Isabel Kierstead '21
Staff Writer

On Nov. 6, Catherine Berryman, Director of Community Standards, sent out an all-campus email containing the 2018-2019 Report on Harassment and Sexual Misconduct. The report was conducted by the Harassment and Sexual Misconduct Board (HSMB), which consists of College faculty and staff. It is a summary of reports made to the Title IX Coordinator during the 2018-2019 academic year. In addition to quantifying these incidents, the report outlines formal resolution procedures, sanctions, and definitions set forth by the HSMB.

When a report is filed to the Title IX Coordinator, HSMB's Investigation Team initially looks into the incident before providing a final report to the Review Board. If evidence of a violation or violations of the College's Sexual Misconduct Policy is found, both the Complainant and Respondent can submit a personal impact statement to the Title IX Coordinator; subsequent sanctions are determined based on the nature of the violation. Sanctions may include a warning, a mandatory educational workshop, a loss of status in housing selection, a status of probation, suspension, or expulsion.

There were 54 reports of potential violations of the College's Sexual Misconduct Policy, with eight of the reporting individuals choosing to continue through to the formal resolution process. After this formal resolution process, two students were found responsible for Non-Consensual Sexual Acts, one student was found responsible for Non-Consensual Sexual Contact, and one student was found responsible for Sexual Harassment. The perpetrators were expelled in these cases.

In two other cases, students were found responsible for Sexual Exploitation and the conferral of their degree was deferred.

There are four ongoing investigations involving Retaliation and Sexual Harassment. In 28 of the remaining 35 reports, the accused were not contacted due to a request by the reporting individual or a lack of information. In the other seven cases, the accused was notified at the request of the reporting individual.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE

Catherine Berryman (left), Director of Community Standards. Stephen Orvis (right), Chair of the Harassment and Sexual Misconduct Board.

There were also eleven reports of behavior that may fall under the Harassment and Discrimination Policy, four of which went through Hamilton's formal resolution process. In each of the four cases, the employee was found not responsible.

The email to campus containing the HSMB report emphasized that each report is counted separately, regardless of whether or not they are filed about the same individual.

"The purpose of the report is to share information with the Hamilton community about the reports of potential sexual misconduct made to the Title IX Coordinator in the previous academic year," said Berryman. "The Title IX Coordinator shares this information with the community in addition to complying with the reporting requirements in the federal Clery Act and the New York State Enough is Enough Act, also known as NY 129-b."

In addition to the annual report, Berryman and Dayna Campbell, Assistant Director of Community Standards, conduct trainings on the College's Sexual Misconduct Policy throughout the semester.

"The Director of Community Standards and Assistant Director of Community Standards are actively engaged in a cross-campus working group to review and improve the College's response to allegations of sexual misconduct," said Berryman.

Students meet industry experts at National College Media Convention

by Laura Hornby '20
Staff Writer

From Oct. 31 to Nov. 3, several Hamilton students attended the National College Media Convention at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in Washington, DC, engaging with industry experts in media and journalism and from top collegiate-media programs across the country. The multi-day convention included more than 275 workshop sessions featuring keynote speakers, networking opportunities, panel discussions, hands-on tutorials, and access to media professionals.

The lineup of keynote speakers at the convention included Marty Baron, executive editor of *The Washington Post*; Nina Totenberg, legal-affairs correspondent for *National Public Radio*; Abby Phillip, White House correspondent for *CNN*; and Rick Hutzell, Danielle Ohl and Alex Mann, of the *Capital Gazette*.

Associated Collegiate Press and College Media Association hosted the convention, which brought thousands of college journalists together in the nation's capital. Attendees included Karina Bayrakdarian '21, Arts & Entertainment Editor for *The Spectator*, and Alexandra Reboredo '22, Opinion Editor for *The Spectator*, who were informed of this opportunity through their involvement with the student newspaper.

As a Cinema and Media Studies major, Bayrakdarian described her interest in the conference as aligning with her interest in media, specifically visual arts and video as a form of journalism. She noted that this convention would be a great opportunity to learn more about potential careers in media and journalism.

The event covered an extensive array of topics in contemporary media, including rapidly changing multimedia platforms, newspaper, broadcast, yearbook, and magazine journalism, and career paths in the industry.

Bayrakdarian described two workshops entitled "Global Stories" and "Reimagining Broadcast News" as particularly meaningful. These sessions both examined the emerging field of video journalism in the form of *Vice News*-style videos, which Bayrakdarian says is her specific interest as a potential career.

"I hope to one day create my own video content in this format to raise awareness for issues in this country and abroad," she said. "I believe that the video medium is a powerful tool that can reach audiences in ways that a paper cannot, particularly through social media like YouTube and Instagram."

Many of the workshops furthered this sentiment of using media to raise awareness for different issues and to make a positive impact in the world.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF KARINA BAYRAKDARIAN '21

Two editors for *The Spectator*, Karina Bayrakdarian '21 (left) and Alexandra Reboredo '22 (right), attended the conference.

The experience of networking with other students and professionals in media and journalism provided at this convention in invaluable for Hamilton students interested in this industry, as the College does not offer any journalism curriculum.

Bayrakdarian said she left the convention confident in her interests.

"After attending the convention and seeing other college students like me who are interested in the same things that I am, I realized that it was possible to become a journalist despite not majoring specifically in journalism," she said.

Bayrakdarian described how, in her keynote speech, Phillips talked about how she did not realize she wanted to become a journalist until her junior year, and she encouraged people who were starting their journalism careers that it is never too late. Bayrakdarian said she was struck by Phillips' words — "It's just about doing the work! Don't worry about other people and what they might think" — after realizing her own interest in a career in journalism her junior year.

"I thought it was too late at this point in college to switch my career track," Bayrakdarian said. "But she's proof that if you work hard, remain persistent, and put one foot in front of the other everyday, it's never too late to change your life."

Campus Safety Incident Report

In an effort to increase Campus Safety's transparency, *The Spectator* publishes a selection of the previous week's incidents each Thursday. Both Campus Safety and *The Spectator* use discretion regarding what is published.

Friday, November 8

4:41 P.M. Odor of Marijuana – McIntosh Residence Hall
11:21 P.M. Medical Emergency – Bristol Campus Center

Saturday, November 9

1:29 A.M. Medical Emergency – Milbank Residence Hall
2:03 A.M. Medical Emergency – Dunham Residence Hall
10:18 A.M. Motorist Assist – South Campus
10:46 A.M. Fire Alarm – Bundy West Residence Hall
5:08 P.M. Area Check – North Campus
6:03 P.M. Area Check – South Campus
6:17 P.M. Area Check – South Campus
9:39 P.M. Medical Emergency – Babbitt Residence Hall
11:52 P.M. Medical Emergency – Carnegie Residence Hall

Sunday, November 10

12:23 A.M. Medical Emergency – Fillius Events Barn
12:51 A.M. Medical Emergency – Fillius Events Barn
10:10 A.M. Fire Alarm – Bundy West Residence Hall
1:24 P.M. Fire Alarm – Milbank Residence Hall
1:38 P.M. Assist – Little Pub
3:25 P.M. Medical Emergency – Babbitt Residence Hall
7:23 P.M. Medical Emergency – South Campus
10:39 P.M. Trouble Alarm – 1 Anderson Road

Tuesday, November 12

7:15 A.M. Parking Complaint – Morris House Parking Lots
12:45 P.M. Complaint – McIntosh Residence Hall
1:22 P.M. Tow Vehicle – 95 College Hill Road
3:36 P.M. Trouble Alarm – South Residence Hall
8:52 P.M. Odor of Marijuana – McIntosh Residence Hall

Wednesday, November 13

8:20 A.M. Trouble Alarm – Milbank Residence Hall

Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving Break is just around the corner. As the holiday season nears, this issue's editorial conveys nothing more than a suggestion to take stock of those in your life who you value — and maybe let them know it after you do.

Be well.

Best,
The Spectator

The Spectator

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The Spectator's Letter to the Editor section is designed to be a forum for the entire Hamilton community to discuss and debate campus, local, national, and global issues. Pieces published in the section express the opinion of the individual writers and are not necessarily the opinions of *The Spectator*, its editors or the Media Board.

Letters to the Editor are welcome from all students, alumni/ae, faculty, friends of the college, and Hamilton community members.

The Spectator has the following policies for submission:

1. Submissions are due by 10:00 p.m. on the Monday before publication. The editors reserve the right to refuse any late submissions.
2. Letters should be no longer than 500 words. The editors reserve the right to cut off letters at 500 words.
3. Letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
4. *The Spectator* reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
5. If a piece is determined to be libelous, an unwarranted invasion of privacy, or an unnecessary and/or unwarranted ad hominem or personal attack, it will not be published.

About Us

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Losing ground: Republicans continually falter in attacking all facets of impeachment inquiry

by Gabriela De Mendonca Gomes '23
Opinion Contributor

We need to talk about the impeachment proceedings. More specifically, Republicans' conduct. How could we not?

A little court truism states that, in trials, if the law is on your side in a trial, you bang on the law; if the facts are on your side, you bang on the facts; if neither is on your side, bang on the table.

Republicans are not only banging on the table but now lack any semblance of coherence in all the noise they are making.

The GOP is coming at every move by the Democrats from every angle possible, even when many of their points are contradictory to one another. As when House Democrats began impeachment hearings, Republicans complained that they were being unrightfully excluded from sitting in. They protested that the public should also have access to the information.

> **"The GOP is coming at every democratic move from every angle possible — even when many of their points are contradictory to each other."**

Private hearings are an entirely normal part of impeachment proceedings, and Republicans utilized them during the era of Clinton's impeachment. Furthermore, some of the protestors present were actually on the panels that conducted the inquiry into President Clinton.

At first Republicans claimed the Democrats were being sly and deceitful. Once the hearings became a public manner, however, the GOP labeled them as show trials.

Even as Trump's party attempts to undermine the proceedings, a national poll shows public approval ratings of the impeachment inquiry reaching 55 percent. If revelations continue flowing in at their current rate, public opinion could continue to support impeachment hearings.

Furthermore, Trump defenders have very little of substance to say. When they do say something, it doesn't seem to help. The conflicting comments from Republicans began when the whistle-blower's complaint first emerged. The attempted defense was claims of hearsay, which was quickly and easily debunked.

As the panels began their private hearings, these Trump crusaders constantly fell back on the ad hominem fallacy. This is an act of attacking the character and/or circumstances of those testifying rather than attempting to disprove their statements. Trump's team stooped so low as to attack long-time Ukraine expert Lt. Colonel Vindman when the member of the National Security Council explained that he sought to correct the abridged transcript of the call with Ukrainian president Zelensky. Vindman is not the traitor in this situation by any rational measure.

Republicans also seem to claim that Trump's request for a favor was an authentic desire to remedy corruption in Ukraine, rather than a quid pro quo aimed to gain political leverage over an opponent.

If Trump were even remotely interested in combating corruption, he would not befriend corrupt dictators nor would Ukraine be the first country in need of help.

Anyone wanting the truth of this situation should instead focus on the damning facts that seem to arise every single day.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CNN.COM

Republicans are acting unethically in their response to recent impeachment inquiries by House Democrats and should let the process play out, writes De Mendonca Gomes.

Finally, a wealthy, white male running for President! Bloomberg's miscalculation in entering the 2020 field

by Peter Case '21
Opinion Editor

This past week, Michael Bloomberg filed paperwork in Alabama with the intention of laying the foundation for a potential presidential run in 2020. The decision has been lauded as a clever and well-executed political play by politicians on both sides of the aisle who were delighted to see yet another exorbitantly wealthy white man throwing his top hat in the ring.

Moreover, the idea of having Bloomberg in the Oval Office is a mouth-watering proposition for conservatives. In the current political climate, it is vital to have a candidate who can rally the Democratic party around a unifying message of social elitism, ethnic homogeneity, and the blue collar ideals embodied by a close relationship with Jeff Bezos.

One can only hope that Bloomberg doesn't feel ostracized by the other democratic candidates. Getting onstage at a debate with more than one woman (and a woman of color, yeesh) is an intimidating prospect, and Bloomberg should be commended for that. Being a wealthy white man in Democratic party politics isn't easy. Just ask Pete Buttigeg, Michael Bennet, Joe Biden, Steve Bullock, John Dulaney, Bernie Sanders, Tom Steyer, Chuck Schumer, Jim Clyburn, John Kerry, Al Gore, Harry Reid, Rohm Emmanuel, Harry Byrd Jr., Bill Daley, Dick Durbin, The Cuomo Family, Pat Quinn, Chris Dodd, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, James Monroe, James K. Polk, James Buchanan, John Quincy Adams, Martin Van Buren, Andrew Jackson, Franklin Pierce, Richard Nixon, Harry Truman, Lyndon B. Johnson, Andrew Johnson, Grover Cleveland, Woodrow Wilson, FDR, JFK, Jimmy Carter, Bill Clinton, or Rudy Guliani (he was a Dem until 1975, isn't that a trip?)

In all seriousness, Bloomberg has no business running for President. He is an unnecessary addition to an already crowded field, and what he does offer in centrism he lacks in electability. His track record is too subject to scrutiny. His business ties to China will almost certainly be raised in any potential debates, and there is little he could do to combat allegations of a conflict of interest. His tenure as mayor of New York, while impressive in some regards, featured several policies that alienated voters of color — a key demographic that democrats will need to hold onto in 2020. His flip-flopping on the ballot (he has switched from Democrat to Republican to Independent and back to Democrat throughout his political career) will be seen as a commitment to centrism to some, and to many others an unwillingness to toe the party line. Not to mention the fact that his addition to the race puts him in direct competition with Elizabeth Warren, who has consistently commanded a large percentage of Democratic women and would likely hold onto them if challenged by Bloomberg.

In sum, Bloomberg's bid is at best inadvisable and at worst harmful to the Democratic party's attempts to unseat Trump. The Dems don't need another wrinkled, white male face in the crowd.

Bloomberg is just a red-blooded, hard-working multi-billionaire trying to uphold America's most time honored tradition: putting rich white guys in positions of power.

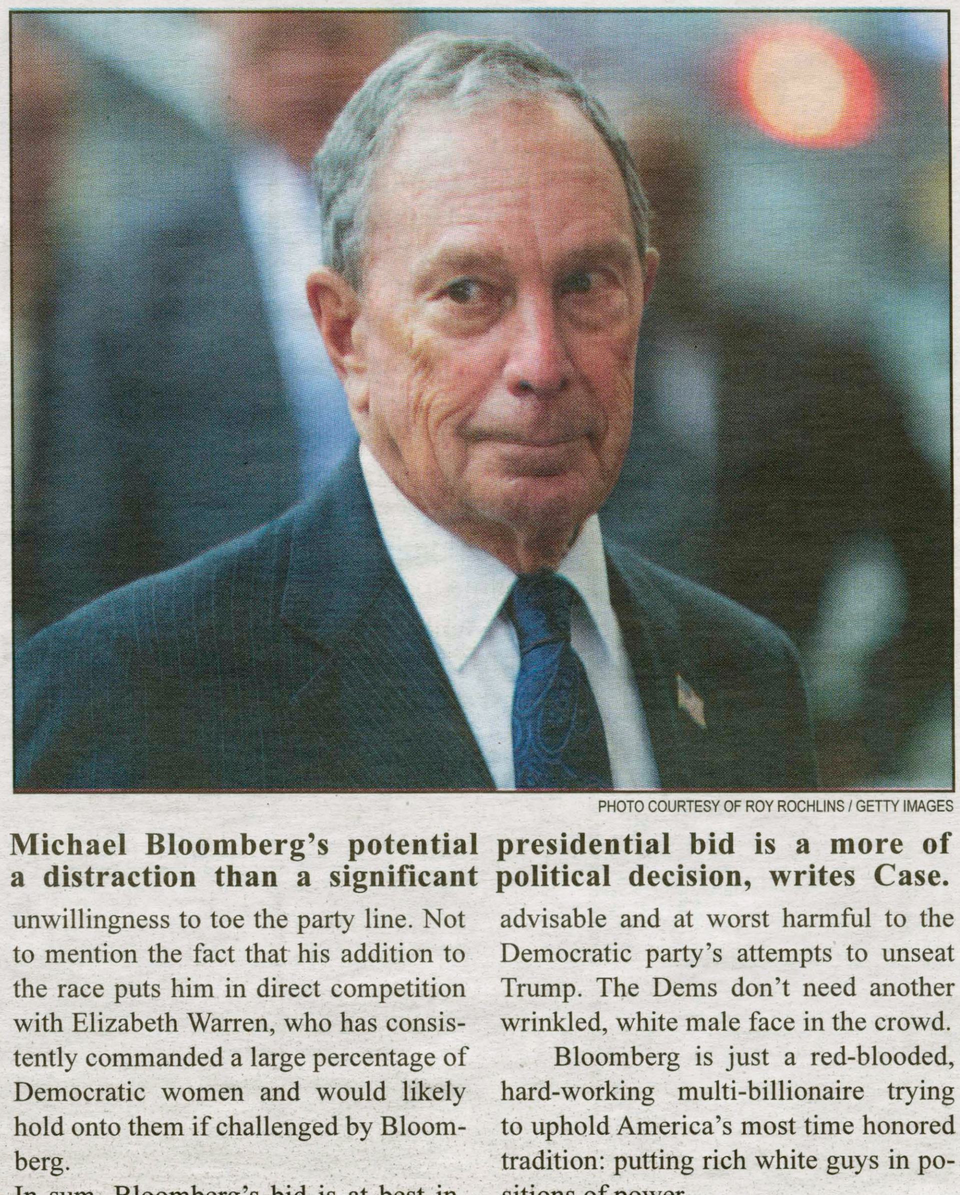


PHOTO COURTESY OF ROY ROCHLINS / GETTY IMAGES

Michael Bloomberg's potential presidential bid is a more of a distraction than a significant political decision, writes Case.

We demand change: lack of climate activism harms most vulnerable communities

by Juasline Plasencia '23
Opinion Contributor

PHOTO COURTESY OF NICKOLAY LAMM

Under business-as-usual practices, climate change will eventually push struggling communities out of their homes, writes Plasencia.

I am the daughter of a Dominican immigrant, the grand-daughter of two Puerto Rican immigrants, and the first child in my family to go to college.

I am a New Jersey native, yet I have resided in the state of Florida for the last four years — a place that is now recognized as ground-zero for global warming and the climate crisis.

This state is not only my home, but it is also home to the nationally-protected Everglades, Walt Disney theme parks, the Daytona 500, and some of the United States's most pristine beaches. It also houses the largest production of citrus fruits in the United States; some of the most admired wildlife throughout the country call it home.

But for the residents of Miami-Dade County — simultaneously the most endangered and populated county in all of Florida — home has fallen so far below sea-level that its residents can no longer keep their heads above water. For 70 percent of Hispanics and 20 percent of African-Americans living in Miami-Dade County, the generational deprivation of wealth, education, and opportunity has pushed them to the outskirts of south Florida's most endangered neighborhoods. Their home have become contaminated by an increase in toxic algae blooms, coral reef bleaching, invasive species, and even mosquito-borne illnesses.

For those groups most affected by these changes — such as children, the working-class, the elderly, and the sick — home has become so polluted with violence and poverty that, even on the hottest days, it's a risk to leave our windows open, and we can't afford to turn on our air conditioning systems. We cannot afford to relocate nor can we afford to purchase the necessary tools and supplies to prepare for the increase in tropical storms and hurricanes.

My people, most of whom are struggling to face these challenges, have been deprived not only of financial stability, but also of adequate information regarding the climate crisis and its causes. With animal agriculture and the misuse of resources being two of the leading causes of global warming, the U.S. government has been depriving our people of the proper education to eat and live sustainably. It is up to us — the people who are being left to deal with a world stripped of its natural resources and integrity — to demand, not request, change.

We demand action for the less-privileged and for the future generations who are living amongst the muck of our ancestors. It is our responsibility as students of the College to use the knowledge that has been bestowed upon us to seek out government intervention, to promote awareness on the severity of the climate crisis, and to change the daily practices that perpetuate the everlasting harmful effects on our ecosystem. The oppression that has prevented the progression of our society can only be destroyed and deconstructed through the joint efforts of social justice and climate activism.

In honor of those who have previously fought for our future, we must continue the legacy with greater passion, determination, and strength. We must show those currently in power that this country — created "by the people, for the people" — is a progressive nation fighting for the betterment of the human experience.

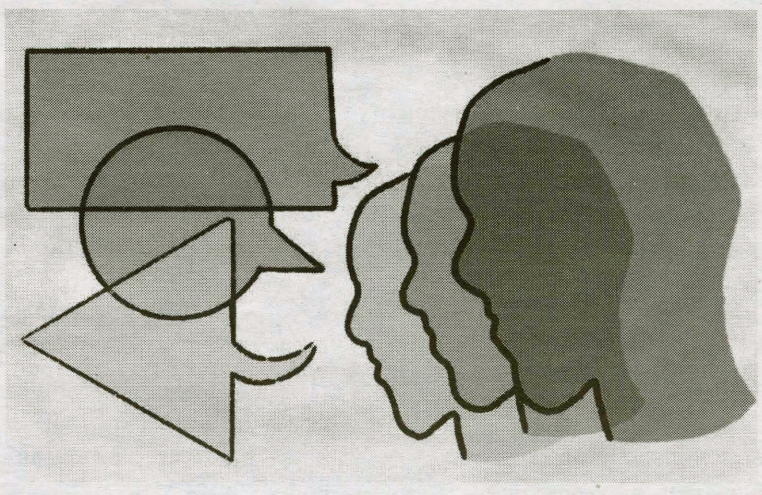
Thumbs Up	Thumbs Down	Who Cares?
"OK, boomer." After years of research and rigorous testing, GenZ has discovered it. The ultimate trump card. The perfect response to "they say there's global warming, but it's pretty darn cold today," "cell phone bad," and "back in my day," all in one. Just don't forget that you also have to think about why the boomer you to whom you say "OK, boomer," is wrong, and can't just use it as a placeholder for a good argument.	**Canada Goose.** You are not on an arctic expedition. You do not need a $1000 coat to walk from the science center to your 6 pull in MoHo or from MoHo to your BMW in Ferg lot. There are infinitely many better things you spend $1000 on, including: buying nine perfectly warm winter coats for kids who can't afford one and one for yourself, buying your textbooks for the next two semesters, buying me that 1996 Toyota Corolla with 180,000 miles and no 3rd gear on Craigslist.	**Sound healing at the Counseling Center.** I mean, I get it, but is this really the best use of the Counseling Center's resources? Maybe. I haven't tried it. But like The Dude, I just listen to the sounds of the Venice Beach Bowling League Playoffs 1987 overtop Bob Dylan's "The Man in Me" on my Walkman when I feel stressed out, and that works just fine.

by Cliff Musial '21

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in this column are purely of a satirical nature, and are not representative of the views of *The Spectator* editorial board.

**Strongly opinionated?
Disagree with someone?
Think a certain issue isn't getting enough attention?**

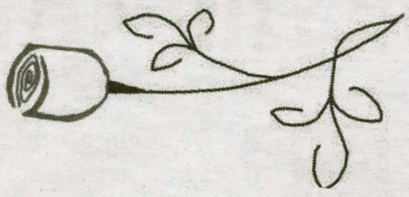
Write about it!



**Email spec@hamilton.edu
for more information!**

The Spectator

Bachelor & Bachelorette



Kenny Talarico '22

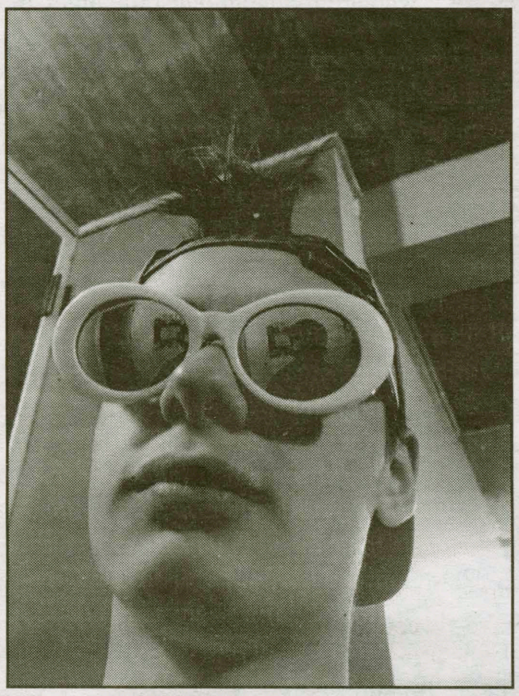


PHOTO COURTESY OF KENNY TALARICO '22

Hometown: *Utica, N.Y.*
Home on Campus: *Root.*
Major: *Computer Science.*
Turn on? *Ben Shapiro defining exactly what constitutes music.*
Turn off? *Karen taking the 2002 Pontiac Firebird and the kids.*
If you were a dorm which would you be and why? *Rogers Estate. I'm small and vacant.*
If you had to describe yourself as the love child of any two musicians, whom would you pick and why? *John Darnielle and Stinky Yeezy. I'm a depressed narcissist.*
What's the best pick-up line you've ever used/had used on you? *"Would you agree that Pop Tarts are a form of ravioli?"*
What are three things you cannot live without? *Mozzarella sticks from the Howard Diner™, Trolli Sour Brite Crawlers™, and San Pellegrino Aranciata Rossa: Sparkling Blood Orange Beverage -- An Italian Tradition™.*
Where do you go when you want to be alone? *My private sensory deprivation blimp.*
If you could join one group on campus, what would it be? *The Trustees of Hamilton College.*
If you could break one rule at Hamilton and get away with it, which would you choose? *Graduating as an art history major and getting a job.*
What would you give a thumbs up? *Impulsive online shopping.*
What would you give a thumbs down? *Carefully calculated decision-making.*
Who would you say is your campus crush? *Julian Snyder.*
Who would you say is your faculty crush? *Chaise LaDousa.*
What would your perfect date be? *Lukewarm and paired to taste with almonds and soft cheese.*
If you could remake the points system, what would be the number one offense? *Supporting fossil fuel companies with the endowment.*
If you were a food, which would you be and why? *An unopened bottle of ranch dressing that's been in your fridge for 14 months since you bought it for a picnic that no one came to.*
Lights on or lights off? *5000 watt heat lamp, clothes on, mindfulness meditation.*
Favorite campus study spot? *The stage at Wellin Hall.*
What was your first thought this morning? *"...but who keeps Frank Coots safe though?"*
Which American historical figure are you attracted to and why? *Rudy Giuliani. Self-explanatory.*

Laura Rodriguez '20

PHOTO COURTESY OF LAURA RODRIGUEZ '20

Hometown: *Miami, F.L.*
Home on Campus: *Milbank.*
Major: *World Politics.*
Turn on? *Smells good.*
Turn off? *Flakiness,*
If you were a dorm which would you be and why? *Moho, because I'm fancy.*
What advertising slogan best describes your life? *"Because You're Worth It" (L'Oréal Paris). Yes, I use this to justify my spending habits.*
What TV genre best describes you? *Comedy.*
What's the best pick-up line you've ever used/had used on you? *"Hi Laura. You ever wonder why God lets bad things happen to good people? For example, how have we never gone on a date?"*
What's your type? *Tall and funny.*
What are three things you cannot live without? *My phone, moisturizer, chocolate. :)*
If you were any social space, what would it be? *Sadove Basement because its low key, nice, and comfortable.*
Where do you go when you want to be alone? *My room, where else?*
If you could join one group on campus, what would it be? *Volleyball team because they have great people.*
What's your patronus and why? *A cat, because I just like cats.*
If you could break one rule at Hamilton and get away with it, which would you choose? *Steal cereal from McEwen after hours.*
What would you give a thumbs up? Reconnecting with my friends.
What would you give a thumbs down? *Finals.*
Who would you say is your campus crush? *Josh Vega.*
Who would you say is your faculty crush? *Professor Rodriguez-Plate aka my Puertorrican mom.*
What would your perfect date be? *A boozy brunch in Miami.*
What is the weirdest thing currently in your room? *A dying succulent.*
If you could remake the points system, what would be the number one offense? *Snitching.*
If you were a food, which would you be and why? *BBQ Chicken tender wrap with everything on it and mozzarella, because it's my diner order.*
Lights on or lights off? *Off generally, with the night light on in the background.*
Favorite campus study spot? *Library second floor classrooms.*
What was your first thought this morning? *It's cold in here.*

Helpful tips for first-years navigating the registration process for the spring

by Cliff Musial '21
Features Editor

Registration can be stressful for anyone, but first-years in particular are thrown into the process with less confidence in their knowledge of the resources available. Here are some helpful tips for first-years navigating the registration process.

Have backup classes. This may seem obvious, but as a first-year, there is a good chance some of the classes you want to be in will fill up by your registration time. Find two to four classes that interest you or would fulfill requirements, and make sure they fit into your schedule. On Student Planning, if you click "Add course to plan" instead of "Add section to schedule," it will display alongside your other choices but not on your schedule. This will allow easy access later on if you need to quickly find and register for your backup courses.

Wake up early and be ready to think quickly. The better your registration time, the earlier you will have to wake up. You can check your time on WebAdvisor or Student Planning under "My Registration Information." If your registration time is earlier than you normally wake up, make sure to set your alarm early enough that you'll be fully awake. You may find yourself having to think on your feet, as classes can fill quickly. So be ready to make decisions and to consider your options in the fifteen minutes before the next group of students begins to register.

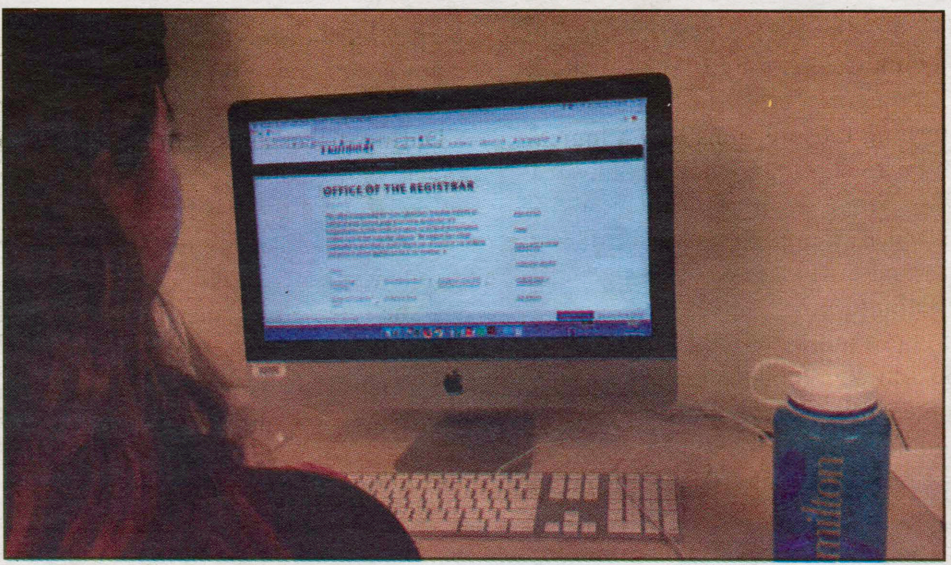


PHOTO COURTESY OF CLAIRE GOLDSTEIN

Plan ahead for your registration time and desired classes by using the available online resources provided by Hamilton.

Make sure you check the prerequisites and requisites! As simple as it may sound, I have overlooked prerequisites in the past and found myself unable to register for a course. Sometimes, professors list prerequisites in the text of the course description instead of in the specific prerequisite/requisite section. Neither Student Planning nor WebAdvisor will allow you to register for courses that have a prerequisite you have not taken or a requisite you are not signed up for at the same time.

Think about your time slots. Cramming your Wednesdays so you do not have any classes on Friday is not necessarily a good idea. Having too many courses on the same day could hamper your concentration and motivation. Make a schedule that fits with your habits, routines, and other classes. Some people prefer breaks in between classes, while others prefer all of their classes in a row. If you are not sure which you prefer, think about what worked for you this semester and do not commit to a schedule that leans too heavily toward one or the other.

Ask other students about professors. I have found that who the professor is can often have as much impact on your experience in a class as the material itself. Talk to other students who have taken classes with the professor to find out about about his or her teaching style, workload, assignments, and class environment.

Do not be afraid to try things out. It is fine if you are not sure whether the courses you end up in are right for you. The add deadline will be during the second week of classes, on Wednesday, Jan. 29, and the drop deadline after that, on Friday, Feb. 28. Go to a couple class meetings during the first week and imagine yourself in those classes for the rest of the semester. If you are on the waitlist for a class you really want to be in, go to the first meeting and ask the professor afterward if you can sign up. Many classes will adhere strictly to the limit, but some professors will make exceptions.

Do not despair if you cannot get into your first choices. You may find yourself enjoying and getting more out of your backup classes. Some of the courses that I have enjoyed most at Hamilton were not my first choices. Remember that you have until 2:00 P.M. on the second day of your class's registration (Friday, Nov. 22 for the Class of 2023) to adjust your choices, then again once classes begin in January.

Ask for help. If anything does not make sense to you, ask your advisor or other students for help. It can never hurt to be completely sure of how Student Planning and/or WebAdvisor work before you try to register. I recommend using Student Planning because it lets you plan your schedule and makes searching for courses easier. If you have specific questions about a course, email the professor.

From Where I Sit:
The Humblest and the Noblest

Hamilton's International Perspectives Column

by Air Hou '23
Contribting Writer

On Sunday, Nov. 10, I went to the Bradford Auditorium and watched the film *The Goddess* presented by the F.I.L.M. series. *The Goddess* is a silent Chinese movie made in 1934, but this version presented at Hamilton is a re-edited work by Min Xiao-Fen, a pipa soloist, vocalist, and composer. The film was accompanied by Min Xiao-Fen and guitarist Rez Abassi as they played the background music.

The movie talked about a woman trapped in the sex trade. Because of the threat of a hooligan and the pressure of survival, the woman had to sell her body to raise her son and herself. As her son grew up, she realized the importance of education and used the money she hid to send her son to school. However, other parents soon found out about her occupation, and urged the school to expel her son, a child from a disgraced family. At the same time, the hooligan found the woman hiding place, so her wish to take her son to a place where nobody knew them could not come true. Alas, angry and distraught, she killed the hooligan, and her son was sent to an orphanage.

In the 1930s, China still considered women to be inferior to men, not to mention how prostitutes were considered. This film was courageous in that it tried to tell the story of a prostitute. The film did not portray the protagonist as a disgraceful figure, as society commonly believed a prostitute to be, but rather the director created a woman who had a noble heart. Although her occupation was ignominious, her heart and will were beautiful. The title of the film also emphasized this contrast existing within the same person. As the word "goddess" also implied street-walker in Chinese, it shows the dual identity of the woman. For her son, she was a protective goddess who sheltered him in his childhood, while for society, she was a disgraceful prostitute who did the humblest jobs for survival.

During the Cultural Revolution in China, the original copies of the movie were destroyed, so Min collected pieces, edited them, reconnected them, and added the English subtitles according to the Chinese transcript. Compared to the original movie, this film was slightly shorter, but the main plot was complete, and the story was as moving as the previous version. To enhance the original movie, Min added background music to the new version. She not only used pipa and guitar for the background music, but also used vocal skills and beat box skills to reflect the emotions of the characters in this otherwise silent film.

After the show ended, Min talked about her experiences making this movie, and the difficulties she faced. I was impressed by her passion for that decade, the 1930s, in Shanghai, China. During that decade, although the technology was unenlightened, the environment of creativity was thriving—it was a golden age for Chinese art. Although the technical skills were dated, and there were no special effects, this old silent movie still had realistic meanings nowadays, as people never stop blaming those suppressed by society for their problems.

I felt overwhelmed by mixed feelings because it was such a special experience to get connected with my culture in the US, almost half an earth away from my home. Here, in another country, I got a chance to look into a history I did not know about.

PHOTO COURTESY OF QIANZI HOU '23

'From Where I Sit' is a column dedicated to the voices of international students, immigrant generation students, and students from families where English is not spoken at home.

Levitt Innovator-in-Residence hosts “Germinating Ideas” Workshop

by Elise Wilson ’22
Contributing Writer

On Friday, Nov. 8, Levitt Innovator-in-Residence Melinda Little held the “Germinating Ideas” Lunch Workshop, which created a space for students to workshop ideas for social innovation projects in an open and informal setting.

According to the Levitt Center, the “Innovator-in-Residence Program brings social innovators and entrepreneurs to campus to help students develop ideas and projects that seek to address a long standing social problems in innovative and creative ways.” As an expert in organizing finances for social innovation projects, Little has been leading workshops with the Levitt Center for the past five years. She is currently the coordinator for Point Positive Inc., which manages the Angel Investor Group, president of the Village Mercantile, a community-owned department store, and co-founder of Independent Means, a financial education and information services firm.

Little described the workshop as a place to “tease out what someone is doing and work it out through problem-solving.” She sees her role as taking student’s visions for social innovation and “bringing out the nuts and bolts,” or turning those visions into a logical and practical course of action. Between bites, students and Levitt Center faculty engaged in a thorough discussion of new ideas and critiques for each student’s social innovation project.

The framework for Little’s workshop draws on John Kotter’s eight-step change management theory from his book, *The Heart of Change*, forming a general plan for each student innovator. This included steps such as “developing a sense of urgency” and “communicate for buy-in”, or “sending clear, credible, and heartfelt messages about the level of the change, overcome confusion and distrust.”

These steps proved to be personally effective for Little; in 2011, she developed a community-owned department store, The Village Mercantile (formerly the Community Store) in her hometown of Saranac Lake, NY. Little commented that she actually experienced Kotter’s eight steps for herself when working on the project, prior to even learning about them. She added that actually experiencing the steps in action through her own social innovation project made them “real and relevant to me.”

During discussions, Little emphasized the power of images to create a sense of urgency, as well as the importance of short-term wins, and plan adjustment as time goes by and changes arise. She often posed questions to the group challenging students and Levitt Center faculty to think critically in evaluating a student’s plan.

In addition to Kotter’s theory, Little cited Nell Edgington’s work with Social Velocity, a management consulting firm which helps non-profit organizations be more effective and sustainable in their strives for social change.

Workshop attendee Kimberly Ly ’20, who is leading the Social Innovation Team this year, brought her idea about reducing food waste outside dining halls. Other attendees then had the opportunity to pose questions to Ly and brainstorm specific strategies under Kotter’s eight-step plan. Ly concluded that, “Melinda’s perspective was very helpful; she brought up a few points we had not previously considered.”

Ly noted the importance of the Levitt Center’s innovator-in-residence workshops, stating, “I think they’re a great resource for all students, whether you need help developing a project or if you’re new to social innovation and want to learn more.”

PHOTO COURTESY OF ADIRONDACK DAILY

Melinda Little (pictured above) is the current Innovator-in-Residence at the Levitt Center.

Introducing iGrad: Hamilton’s new financial literacy program

by Jordan D’Addio ’20
Contributing Writer

On Monday, Nov. 4, Cameron Feist, Director of Financial Aid, and Maria Genao-Homs, Associate Dean of Students for Diversity and Inclusion, partnered with the Career Center’s Life Skills Connect Team to introduce iGrad, a new financial literacy program for the Hamilton community.

Melanie Geller ’22, a Network Associate for the Life Skills Connect Team, admits that she, along with many of her friends, has little knowledge of the basics of personal finance. She said, “We never really talk about finances in my family, and so all I really knew was the idea of ‘save some, spend some.’” Feist has heard many similar statements before, and saw a big push regarding interest in financial literacy. He and Genao-Homs began looking for programs to replace Salt, Hamilton’s previous financial literacy resource, following its elimination in Dec. 2018.

After interviewing multiple financial literacy programs, Feist and Genao-Homs chose iGrad, particularly for its features that help navigate student loan debt as well as credit card use and managing budgets. Once signed into iGrad, the program prompts users to take a brief quiz regarding their current circumstances, knowledge, and financial personality. The results from this quiz then allow the program to generate recommended tools and courses on a broad range of financial topics. One important feature that drew Feist and Genao-Homs to iGrad is the ability to directly input individual data from the National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS), which allows personalization of student loan management. When discussing the various features of the program, Feist said, “I really like that it’s not intimidating in the way asking a question in-person may be, or overwhelming in the way a Google search may be. This is much more targeted.”

Geller agrees that the program is really helpful in its content and specificity, noting, “It’s easy to access things you might not have learned at home and even tells you how long a lesson takes.”

Another benefit of iGrad is that it will be available to more than just current Hamilton students. Genao-Homs said, “Our focus is certainly the student population, but iGrad also caters to employees at the college as well as alums.” Presently, sign-ups are limited to those with a Hamilton email address, but students will have the ability to continue using the program after graduation. Feist and Genao-Homs plan to extend the program to Hamilton employees as well.

Genao-Homs also pointed out the collaboration between herself and Feist adding, “it’s nice for students to realize that our offices don’t act separately. The support services on campus really are web, and overall financial wellness is important to us. We recognize that we are all starting in different places, since not everyone has financial wellness in their home. This is about getting educated, not learning how to amass wealth.”

PHOTO COURTESY OF ADIRONDACK DAILY

Maria Genao-Homs (left) and Cameron Feist ’04 (right) presented at the first installment of the program.

iGrad is currently available for students to use at hamilton.igrad.com. Feist and Genao-Homs said that they will, “allow student interest to lead the direction of programming.” There will be upcoming events and workshops incorporating iGrad and it may be added to Residential Life curriculum as well. Ultimately, Feist said, “This is even beyond financial literacy, this is a resource for everybody.”

Award-winning author Kenneth Hartman hosts reading and discussion of memoir

by R.J. Steele '23
A&E Contributor

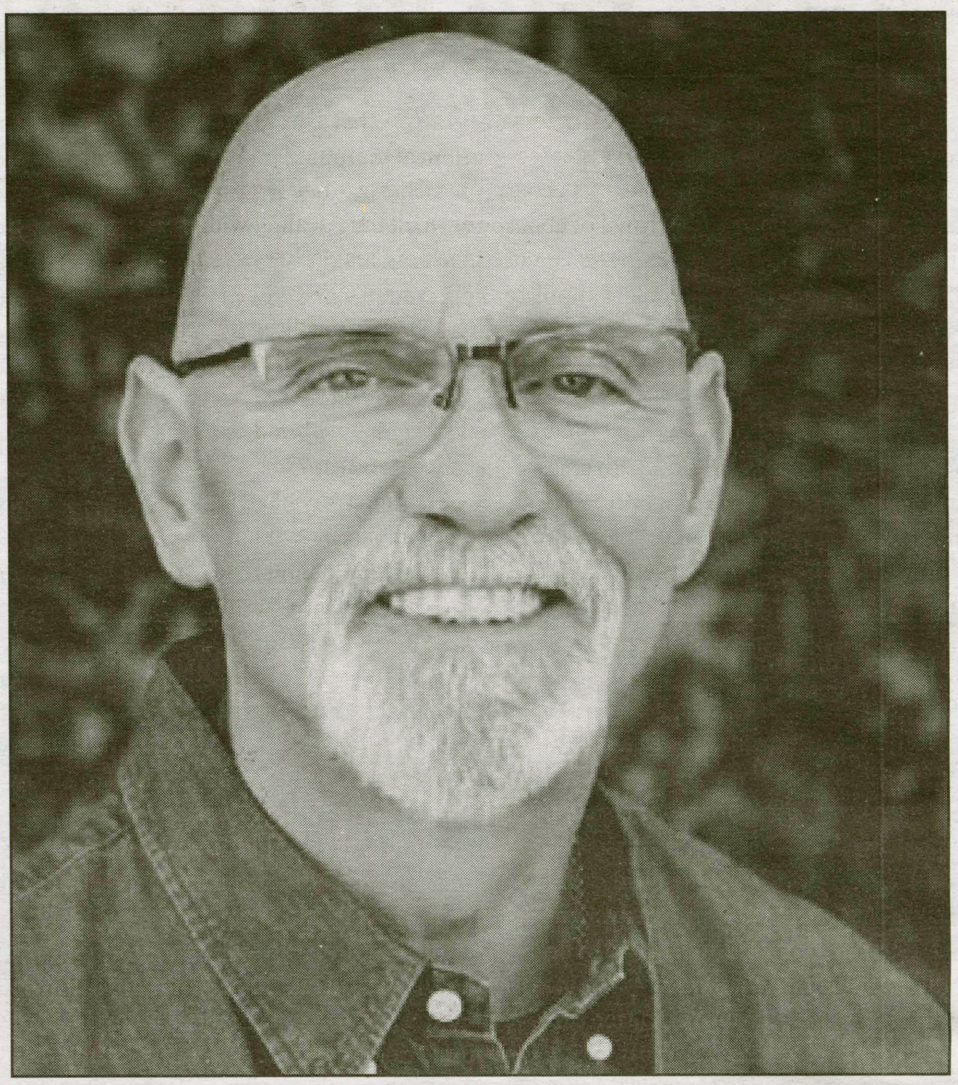


PHOTO COURTESY OF CALL TO ACTION UCLA

Kenneth Hartman served 38 years of a sentence of life without the possibility of parole before being released in 2017.

"When I was nineteen, I killed a man in a drunken, drugged-up fistfight. Anyone who knew me could have seen it coming." This begins Kenneth Hartman's memoir *Mother California* and so too began his reading to a crowd of Hamilton students and community members on Wednesday, Nov. 6, in the Fillius Events Barn.

As his book's introduction suggests, much of Hartman's developmental years were spent in environments so marred with violence, addiction, and darkness, that his extensive experience in the Los Angeles Youth Authority was an obvious progression of his young life. By the time he had reached the earliest years of adulthood, he was, in his own words, "a coiled spring of hostility" with "the dead eyes familiar to prison guards and combat veterans." The violence and rage that burned inside him was born from a deep-seated fear and isolation and bred by a system that never had any intention to help those in its care. It was these qualities that lead to the killing of Thomas Alan Fellowes in February of 1980. For this, Hartman was given life without the possibility of parole.

Decades later, Hartman became an outspoken activist for prison reform, a speaker, and a multi-award winning author. Far from their once hardened and "dead" state, his eyes now glow with warmth and pride when he speaks about his daughter, whom he calls every single day. In all regards, the man who spoke to us this past Wednesday was a far cry from his earlier self, a hard-won victory against one of America's most brutal prison systems. The transformation was far from immediate, with Hartman's first years in prison characterized by a rash of fistfights not unlike those from the outside world. With time, however, he became attuned to the struggles facing himself and his fellow prisoners, particularly those serving a sentence of life without parole.

He would go on to use his time to develop his skills as a writer, as well as work towards creating programs that would benefit prisoners. One such program known informally as the "Honor Yard" involved the devotion of one of the prison's four areas to create an environment that incentivized positive behavior among its residents. In this yard, drug use, violence, and all manner of negative behaviors were entirely forbidden. In return, the residents were given an environment where they could "work to make themselves better, to heal," as opposed to solely focusing on protecting themselves from other prisoners and the rampant abuse from the guards. The program was a massive success, even resulting in the passing of legislation to pursue more programs of this variety.

During his sentence, Hartman's activism came through extensive work as a jailhouse lawyer (an inmate who assists fellow prisoners with legal matters), and perhaps most famously, his work as a writer. He published acclaimed essays in both The New York Times and Harper's Magazine, the latter of which featured his piece "The Other Death Penalty," which critically examines the extreme overuse of the life without parole sentence in the American Penal System. The inherent cruelty that accompanies a life without parole sentence is a consistent focus in Hartman's writing and work as an activist. His second book, *Too Cruel, Not Unusual Enough*, is a collection of essays from himself and multiple other authors facing the same sentence and looks at the negative influence what it has on life in and out of prison.

On Thursday, the morning after the reading, Hartman sat with a group of Hamilton students for an open and honest discussion about the need for prison reform in America, moderated by Hamilton Professor of Literature and Creative Writing Doran Larson. The topics of conversation varied from curiosity as to what life in prison actually entailed to how media portrayals of prison life affect those in America's prisons. To the latter point, Hartman described not only how inaccurate most pieces of media are, but also how they contribute to the dehumanization of prisoners, relegating them to a simple, violent, and incredibly damaging stereotype.

As the meeting drew to a close, the core of the discussion centered around two primary topics: "What needs to be fixed? And how do we fix it?" Of course, neither of these questions has a single complete answer, and as became clear very quickly, it would in fact be easier to list what the American penal system is doing correctly. However, as Hartman explained, we could learn a great deal from some of the prison systems in European countries and the adoption of some of their practices could yield a substantial benefit to all members of our society. Implementation of things like maximum sentencing, actual training for prison guards, and access to healthcare in prison would all be massive improvements. Furthermore, an immediate emphasis on preventing the dehumanization of prisoners must be a focus moving forward if we are to fix our broken system. Everything from the food, lack of outreach programs, and abuses at the hands of untrained guards, to the removal of the vote for prisoners, contribute heavily to the dehumanization of those in the system. A trend that Hartman references as being "One of the most harmful and damaging elements of prison life."

As the conversation ended, one last question hung in the air. Do you have hope that we can fix this system? The degree to which those in power wish to maintain this system for the sake of profit is immense, and to some it may even seem unimaginable to perform the overhaul that is so dearly needed. Then again, Hartman is a man who has seen firsthand just how powerful hope in the face of adversity can be, and after a second, he said simply: "I believe that it is possible that we can make real changes and that is what I intend to do until I'm no longer vertical." He continues to say that the reason he so often speaks to university and college groups is because he hopes one day we may be the ones to make those changes.

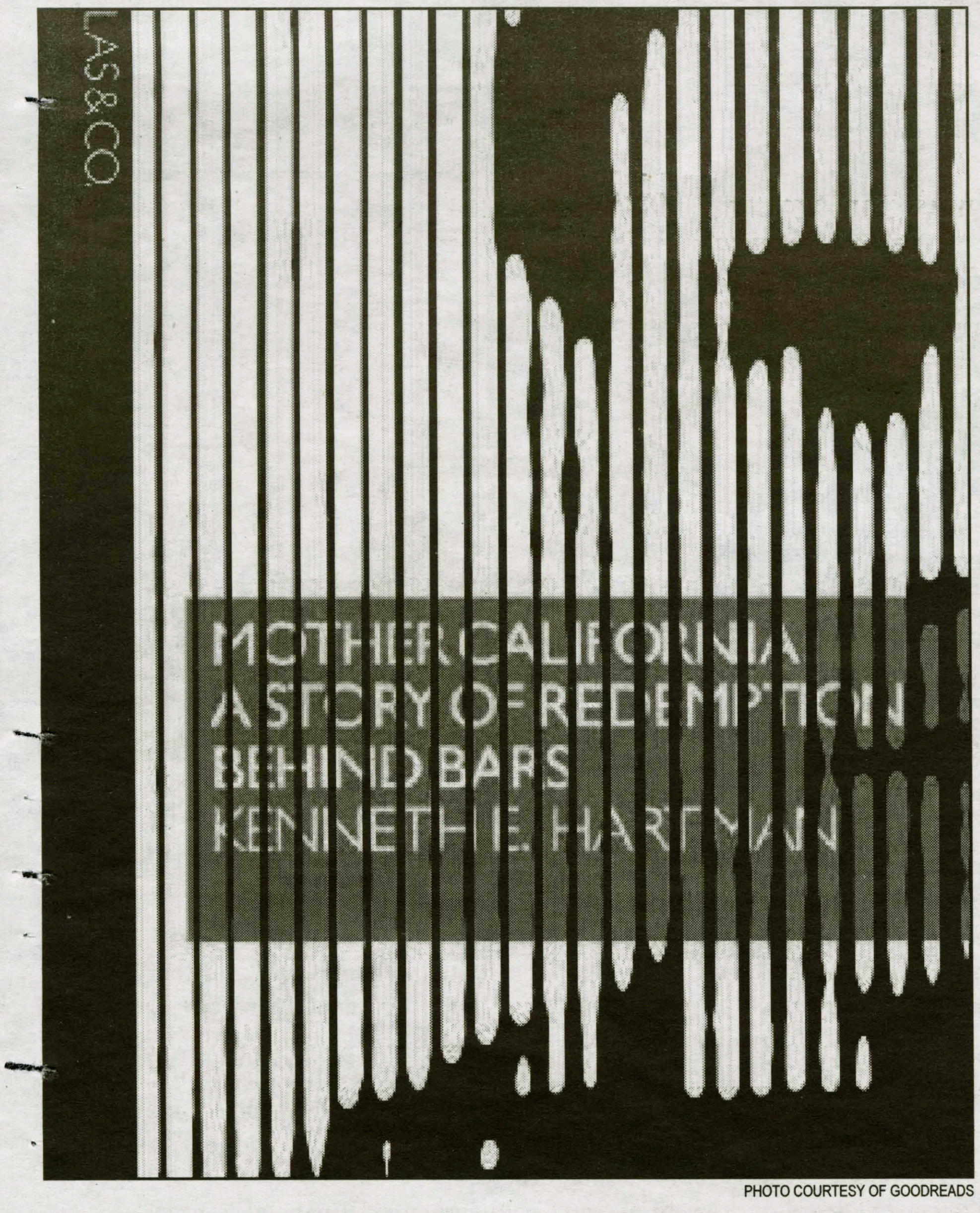


PHOTO COURTESY OF GOODREADS

Hartman recounts his experience in California prisons in his memoir *Mother California: A Story of Redemption Behind Bars.*

Review: CAB Comedy presents stand-ups Mekki Leeper and Rachel Sennott

by Lelan O'Brien '23
A&E Contributor

On Thursday, Nov. 7, CAB Comedy hosted its second show of the semester featuring stand-up comedians Mekki Leeper and Rachel Sennott. With a crowd of about 100 students, Leeper and Sennott filled the Events Barn with jokes about Hamilton College, audience members, and their own life experiences.

CAB Comedy Coordinator Olyvia Jasset '22 opened the event with an introduction of Rachel Sennott. In her introduction, Jasset highlighted Sennott's role on HBO's "High Maintenance" and her work at Comedy Central. Sennott began her set with a joke about the "cabin vibes" given off by the interior design of the Events Barn, saying that it reminded her of "a magical Disney World enclosure."

However, Sennott followed with the disclosure that she had had a "tear filled" train ride on her way to the Hill: after a toxic two year relationship, Sennott cut ties with her ex-boyfriend just a day after her birthday. Able to make light of her situation now, Sennot cracked jokes about her struggles but also admitted that it was difficult for her to confront her boyfriend. Sennott wondered about romance here on campus, so she asked Hannah Budner '23 about her love life, and to Sennott and the audience's surprise, Budner's story sounded familiar: Budner had broken up with her last boyfriend the day after his birthday. The dialogue between the two, which lasted for a large portion of the show, "didn't bother" Budner, who said "the spotlight was nice, I loved Rachel and I think she and I have a lot in common."

Towards the end of her set, Sennott explained her struggle with social media criticism surrounding her career. She has such a difficult time dealing with the criticism that she now regularly sees a therapist. During one session, the therapist advised Sennott not to let "haters" get to her and instead let them be imaginary. In retrospect, Sennott wished she had responded, "How can they be imaginary when there is one sitting right across from me?"

Sennott concluded her show with a story about her working out in New York City. While getting ready to go for a run, she wondered whether her if she would get catcalled because of her outfit. Sennott got excited and was determined to view the catcall as a confidence booster. Instead, a homeless man munching on chips called her "ugly and cute" and threw his chips at her.

Next, Sennott introduced Leeper. A graduate of Temple University, Leeper has his own show on Comedy Central called "Control Room with Mekki Leeper," and has appeared on "The Late Late Show with James Corden." Leeper started the set admitting that he had googled Hamilton prior to coming to campus so he could make a few jokes about the College. To his surprise, Hamilton's Wikipedia page gave him some unexpected material. Leeper laughed that the College's "biggest scandal [was] a president who had to step down because of plagiarism" because he was expecting it to be much more scandalous, exciting and newsworthy. Leeper was also baffled at the "sort of, kind of, maybe" characterization of Hamilton College's greek life, as Wikipedia described greek organizations as "[maintaining] a significant (but not overwhelming) social presence, despite being non-residential."

Leeper filled his set with personal anecdotes that ranged from funny experiences in grade school to the recent divorce of his parents.

One of his most traumatizing moments in grade school happened in fifth grade. A classmate crawled under the bathroom stall to see if Leeper was going "number two" so he could go back to class and make fun of him. Leeper laughs at it now, but also realized that this sort of childhood silliness is normal. He wondered what bullying will eventually look like given that the "emotionally softer youth" are getting older, like if "unreliable" will become the ultimate burn, or if kids will call out their classmates for having a "poor work ethic" to make them cry?

He then went on to describe the details of his parents' divorce. The family only recently learned of his father's affair, even though it lasted for several years of Leeper's childhood. In Leeper's experience, people have not been sympathetic about the divorce because it happened during his adulthood. However, Leeper can now find humor in talking about his dad's affair.

Andie Mechanic '23 said these jokes were her favorite moments of the night and called Leeper "a genuinely very talented comedian." Lucy Kiernat '23 commented that "Mekki was really funny, especially when he joked about how boring Hamilton is."

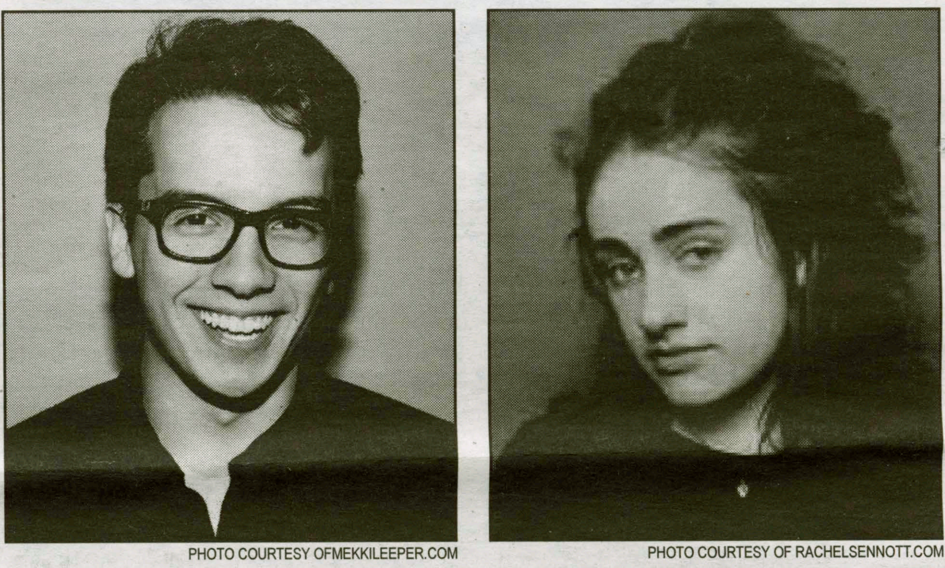


PHOTO COURTESY OFMEKKILEEPER.COM

PHOTO COURTESY OF RACHELSENNOTT.COM

CAB Comedy's second show of the semester featured stand-up comedians Mekki Leeper (left) and Rachel Sennott (right).

Hamilton College presents dozens of arts events each semester. Here are some upcoming events, plays, concerts, and recitals to look forward to from student performers, faculty performers, and outside groups!

by Emma Mae Regan '22
A&E Editor

SpeakEasy - Open Mic Night: Thursday, Nov. 14, Sadove Living Room, 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

SpeakEasy-Poetry Workshop: Friday, Nov. 15, Sadove Conference Room, 1:00 PM to 2:30 PM

SpeakEasy is an established program that aims to combine activism and social justice with art to demonstrate the ways in which art can be used as an instrument to send an effective social message. SpeakEasy welcomes and embraces students from all walks of life and has become a tradition for Hamilton students. The open mic night will feature students from the campus community and professional artists, including Dr. Crystal Endsley, Dr. Tony Keith, and Terri Moise '17. Dr. Endsley, Dr. Keith, and Moise will lead the poetry workshop the following day. The event is organized by the Feminists of Color Collective in collaboration with the Womxn's Center, BLSU, QSU, Sadove, and Student Assembly.

Acoustic Coffeehouse Performance: Ambar Lucid
Thursday, Nov. 14, Events Barn, 8:00 PM (Doors open at 7:30 PM)

Mexican-Dominican musician Ambar Lucid will headline the event, with Kenny Talarico '22 as the opener. The event is co-sponsored by the Campus Activities Board (CAB) and La Vanguardia. Free Dominican food, Takis, and Opus drinks will be served, and there will be a mug raffle.

Fall Main-stage Theatre Department Production: TRAGEDY: a tragedy
Saturday, Nov. 16, Romano Theatre, 2:00PM and 7:30PM

A modern play with absurdist themes and satirization of the news. TRAGEDY was written by Will Eno, is directed by Craig Latrell, and features a cast of ten Hamilton students. Tickets are $4 for students, $6 for senior citizens and campus, and $10 for general admission. The event is open to off-campus guests.

PUSH PHYSICAL THEATRE
Saturday, Nov. 16, Wellin Hall, 7:30 PM

The PUSH company "pushes" the boundaries of theater through a blend of acrobatics, dance, gymnastics, and theater. Tickets are $5 for students and $15 for faculty and staff. The event is open to off-campus guests.

Visiting Artist Series: Sharon Lockhart
Wednesday, Nov. 20, Bradford Auditorium, 4:00 PM

Contemporary American filmmaker and photographer Sharon Lockhart will present a lecture and her film *Rudzienko* (2016). The event will be in conjunction with Professor of Art History Scott MacDonald's F.I.L.M. Program. Earlier in the day, Lockhart's film *Double Tide* (2009) will be shown in Bradford Auditorium at 1:00 PM during MacDonald's Avant-Garde cinema class. Both events are free and open to the public.

Hamilton College and Community Masterworks Chorale with Symphoria
Tuesday, Dec. 3, Wellin Hall, 7:30 PM

The Masterworks Chorale with Symphoria will perform Felix Medelssohn's oratorio *Elijah*. G. Roberts Kolb will conduct, with soloists Julia Ebner (soprano), Danan Tsan (mezzo-soprano), David Parks (tenor), David Kolb (baritone and as Elijah), and Giada Sedge (child soprano). Tickets are free for Hamilton College students, $8 for senior citizens, and $10 for adults. The event is open to off-campus guests.

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NOV 15

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NOON **SELFIE STATION at Commons**

Be one of the first to grab a Because Hamilton Day t-shirt and snap a picture for our Instagram hashtag printers.

2:30 P.M. **S'MORES & MORE at Sadove**

Stop by for sweet treats with a side of competition. Try your hand at carnival games and claim a prize!

7:00 P.M. **BECAUSE HAMILTON DAY PARTY at The Little Pub**

An all-Hamily celebration with students, alumni, faculty, and staff. Free food, cash bar, and entertainment by Otis Shanty and Yonic Youth.

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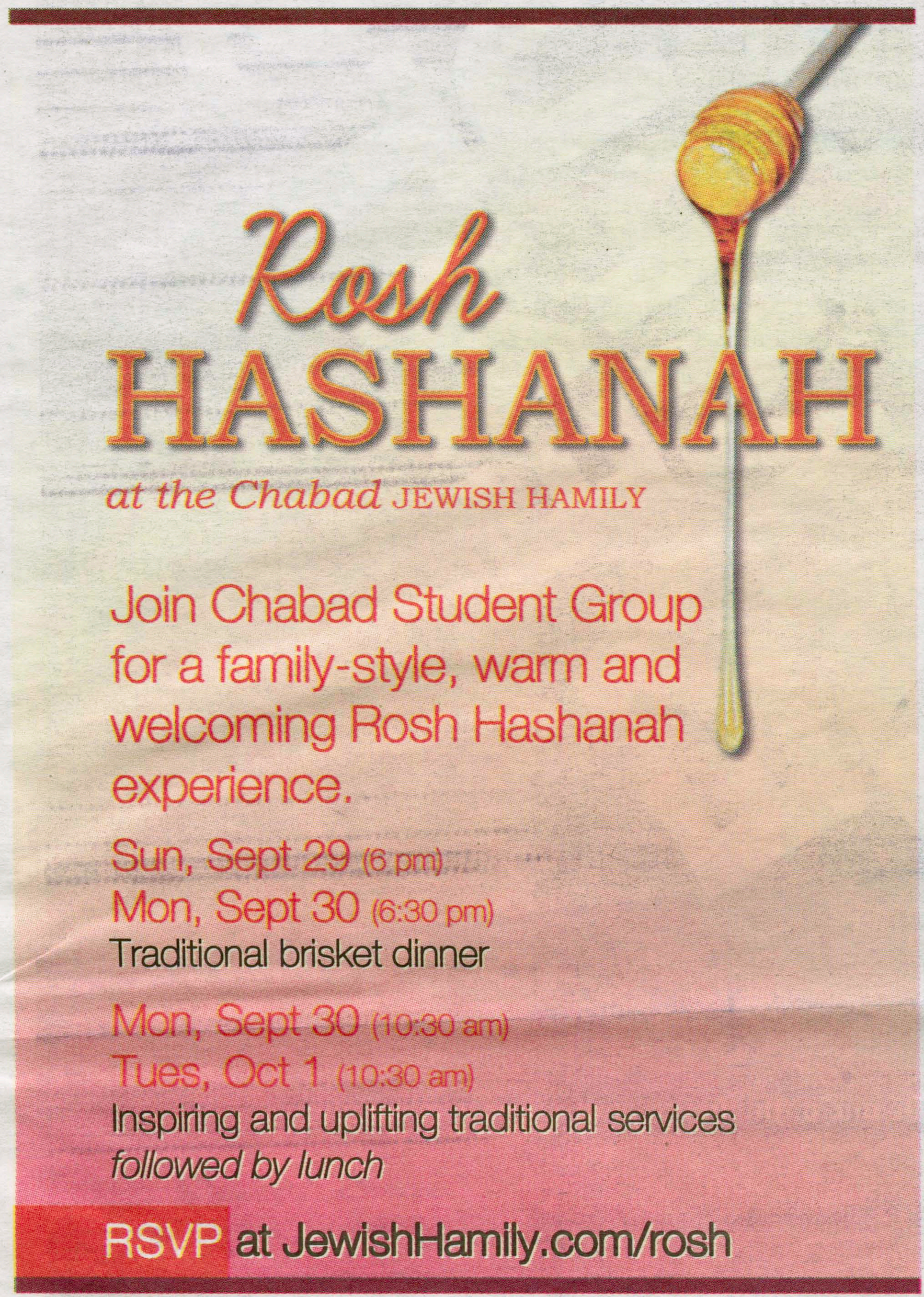

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HASHANAH
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Mon, Sept 30 (6:30 pm)
Traditional brisket dinner

Mon, Sept 30 (10:30 am)
Tues, Oct 1 (10:30 am)
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Women's basketball prepares to prove themselves in NESCAC play

by Kelcie Zarle '22
Staff Writer

"Flip your switch! Season is finally here!" Coach Mo Green, second-year Head Coach of the Hamilton College women's basketball team, said to the team at the start of their first official practice of the 2019-20 season. "It's a new season. It's time to grow from last year and get better. There's literally nowhere to go but up, so we are in the perfect position to show everyone what we are really capable of."

With just a few practices left before the team's first game at home against SUNY Canton on Saturday, Nov. 16, the team has flipped its collective switch and is eager to start the new season.

Green was right; there is nowhere to go but up. During the 2018-19 season, the team went 10–12 overall and 0–10 in NESCAC play. The Continentals began last season with a 7-game winning streak which included hard-earned wins against tough out-of-conference teams like SUNY Potsdam and Utica College. Though the schedule showed a winless conference record, it should be noted that 7 of the 10 losses were by fewer than 10 points with 4 of those defeats coming by 5 points or less. Save for losses to nationally-ranked Amherst College, Bowdoin College, and Tufts University, the Continentals competed in every game from start to finish.

"We had so many close games last year, and I think now that we've had a chance to play together for a season and figure out the new style of play Coach introduced, we will be in a better position to win those close games this year," said Marie Steiner '20, a senior captain from Pully, Switzerland. On the court, Steiner has been a key contributor to the team for the past three years, using her speed and explosive first step to keep opponents off-balance. She comes into the season having scored nearly 500 points–many of them blowing past her defenders on the way to the hoop for layups. "I hope we get a good ranking in the first round of playoffs and go far–that would be the best way to end my career here at Hamilton. It's weird thinking that after all these years this is my last basketball season, but this team will always be my favorite part of basketball, so I'm really excited about the next few months."

Last year also marked Head Coach Green's and Assistant Coach Nanyamka Moore's inaugural years, which proved to be a positive learning experience for everyone involved.

"This season is going to be different because everyone is putting forth a lot of effort and energy, which makes the start of the season very exciting," said Carly O'Hern '20, the sharpshooting senior captain from Jamesville, N.Y. O'Hern heads into this season with 566 career points. She has proven to be a prolific scorer from beyond the 3-point arc; she has knocked down 80 during her career as a Continental. "Every person on our team has the ability to be a star player and have a game where they carry the rest of us. We are also playing an up-tempo style of basketball, which is a change from previous years."

Mackenzie Aldridge '20, another senior captain from Mystic, CT, added, "I think this is going to be the best season I've had at Hamilton. I think this season is already different than others because we are more competitive and our chemistry is significantly better than it has been in the past." Aldridge, the gritty, multi-skilled combo guard, takes as much pride in draining 3-pointers as she does in stopping opponents from scoring. She enters this season having recorded over 300 points, 100 assists, and 100 rebounds in her time at Hamilton. "I think everyone has bought into changing the culture this year. Our goals for the season are to improve our record and compete more in NESCAC play, which I think we are on par to do, so I'm looking forward to that because we have something to prove."

O'Hern spoke on behalf of all three seniors when she noted, "I want to finish my career with a win in the NESCAC tournament and with all of my teammates by my side. We play a number of ranked teams in both non-conference and conference play and if we could win a couple of those games then I will be very happy and will finish my career on a high note."

The team will play at home in the Margaret Bundy Scott Field House at 1:00 P.M. this Saturday, Nov. 16, against SUNY Canton, then will be on the road for 7 straight games until they take on Utica College at home on Monday, Dec. 9. NESCAC play begins on Friday, Jan. 10, when the Continentals will get down to business in Williamstown, M.A. and take on the Williams College Ephs.

O'Hern made sure to emphasize that "We play some of the best teams in the conference at home this season, so everyone should come out and support your Hamilton women's basketball team!" As Coach Green said, it is, indeed, time to flip the switch, as the 2019-20 season is finally upon us.

HAMILTON
23

PHOTO BY JOSH MCKEE

Marie Steiner '20 is the highest-scoring returning player from the 2018-19 season, in which she scored 10.0 points per game.

UPCOMING home events

Week of Thursday, Nov. 14

Women's swimming and diving has a dual meet against Utica College and Trinity College on Friday, Nov. 15 and Saturday, Nov. 16. The second day of the meet, against Trinity College, will begin in Hamilton's Bristol Pool at 1:00 P.M.

Men's swimming and diving has a dual meet against Utica College and Trinity College on Firday, Nov. 15 and Saturday, Nov. 16. The second day of the meet, against Trinity College, will begin in Hamilton's Bristol Pool at 1:00 P.M.

Women's basketball is kicking off their season at home against SUNY Canton on Saturday, Nov. 16. The season opener will begin at 1:00 P.M. in Hamilton's Margaret Bundy Scott Field House.

Men's squash will begin their season on Saturday, Nov. 16 in Hamilton's Little Squash Center against NESCAC opponent Middlebury College at 2:00 P.M.

Women's squash will begin their season on Satruday, Nov. 16 in Hamilton's Little Squash Center against NESCAC opponent Middlebury College at 2:00 P.M.

Scores: Week of Thursday, Nov. 7

Football (4-5) on Saturday, Nov. 9 vs. Bates College

	1	2	3	4	F
Bates	0	6	6	14	26
Hamilton	14	7	0	0	21

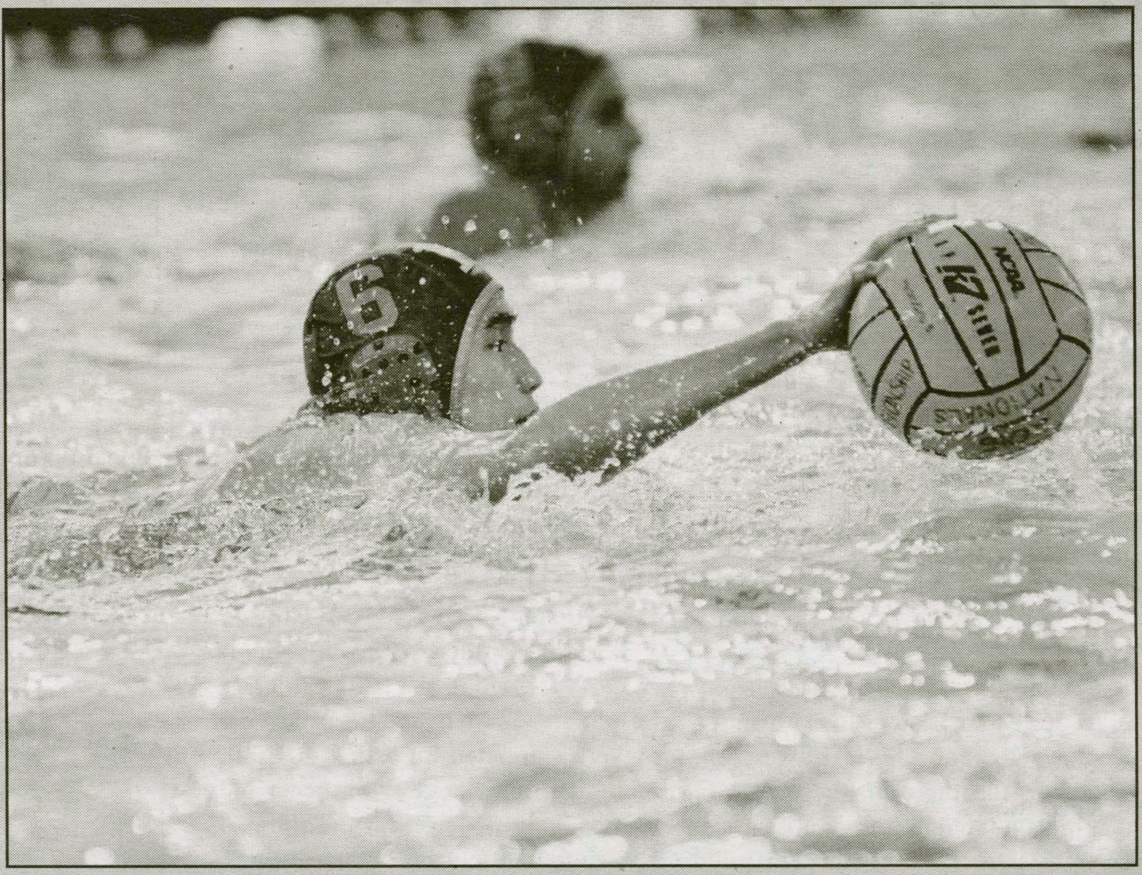
Volleyball (10-14) on Friday, Nov. 8 at #14 Tufts University (NESCAC Quarterfinal)

	1	2	3	F
Tufts	25	25	25	3
Hamilton	13	14	12	0

Field hockey (9-8) on Saturday, Nov. 9 at #2 Middlebury College (NESCAC Semifinal)

	1	2	3	4	F
Middlebury	1	0	0	2	3
Hamilton	0	0	0	0	0

Athlete of the Week: Chris Wan '20



Nickname: Chips, Wanton

Hometown: Irvine, CA

Position: Center Guard, Driver, Backup Goalie.

Favorite Professional Athlete: Mark Stone.

How did you get introduced to water polo? I've swam since the age of 2 and decided when I was 9 that swimming is a boring and impractical sport. My brother tried water polo and quit early, but I liked it more than swimming so I decided to start learning to throw a ball and tread water. Been playing water polo ever since.

What is your favorite thing to do on campus besides your sport? Converting varsity swimmers into club water polo players.

What attracted you to Hamilton's water polo program? It is student run so I knew I'd get the opportunity to coach the team one day. The team itself has good friends and everyone who is there wants to be there.

What has been the toughest obstacle to overcome during your athletic career? I'm smaller than nearly all elite water polo players in Southern California, so the biggest obstacle for me was overcoming the strength and speed of my opponents by developing better technique, attitude, and confidence than every single person I come up against.

What was your favorite sports moment at Hamilton? Fall 2017, State Champs Game 2 vs. NYU, winning 7-8 in front of a huge crowd of rowdy, drunk Hamilton students. My captain and myself combined for all 8 goals and the crowd was on fire.

If you weren't on the water polo team, what Hamilton sports team would you want to be on and why? Club Hockey where I'd very likely run into the exact same "toughest obstacle" that I ran into playing water polo. But I don't do well on land sports, keep me near the water cuz I drown walking around on dry asphalt.

Unfinished business: men's basketball looking to build on past season's successes

by Rebecca Wachen '23
Contributing Writer

With the NESCAC fall championships coming to a close this past weekend, all eyes are looking towards the winter sports season. The Margaret Bundy Scott Field House is now packed with men's and women's basketball, hockey, and swim practices and workouts.

One team many Continentals fans are looking forward to watching this winter is the men's basketball team. For the past two seasons, the team has reached the third round of the NCAA Division III basketball championship. Never in program history has the team made it to the fourth round, or the section finals. The team is hoping to build upon last year's success and make history this upcoming season.

Four players from last year's roster and starting lineup have graduated. Two of those graduates have continued on with their basketball careers and are currently playing overseas in Ireland; Peter Hoffmann '19 and Michael Grassey '19 were selected for the Sport Changes Life Foundation's Victory Scholar Program. Hoffmann and Grassley made significant impacts to the team while at Hamilton and their contributions are certainly going to be missed. They were both 1,000 point scorers during their time at Hamilton. This season, Coach Adam Stockwell has added five first-year players who are hoping to make an immediate impact.

The player who has drawn the most attention, however, is senior Kena Gilmour '20. The reigning NESCAC Player of the Year, Gilmour has received accolades before games have even started. He, along with only 24 other Division III men's basketball players, was namd to the D3hoops.com Preseason All-America Second Team. Gilmour, before entering his senior season, is number 12 on the Continentals' men's basketball all-time scoring list with 1,406 career points. The current record is held by Cedric Oliver '79 with 2,356 career points.

The Continentals have several non-conference games before they start NESCAC play. Their season kicks off this Saturday, Nov. 16 and Sunday, Nov. 17 at the Rose City Classic in Madison, N.J. They will then return home to get ready for their home opener on Wednesday, Nov. 20 against Bard College in the Margaret Bundy Scott Field House. NESCAC play for Hamilton kicks off on Friday, Jan. 10 at home, when the Continentals host the Williams College Ephs.

PHOTO BY JOSH MCKEE

During the 2018-19 season, the men's basketball team lost in the third round of the NCAA Championship tournament. This year they'll look to go deeper with another talented roster.

SPECTATOR SPORTS
November 14, 2019

Women's hockey eyes NESCAC title as 2019-20 season gets underway

by Julia Rowland '21
Staff Writer

The Hamilton women's hockey season is underway with the first game of the season quickly approaching. Last year's team finished 16-8-2 overall and 9-5-2 in the conference. The team made it past the first round of the NESCAC tournament when they beat Colby College 3-1. Unfortunately in the second round, the team lost to nationally ranked #10 Middlebury College 3-1.

Hamilton graduated three strong players: Taegan Blackwell '19, Andrea Rockey '19, and Olivia Hawes '19. Together, the three played a part in 30 points totaled for the Continentals. Despite the loss of these three talented players, among others, the Continentals return their three net minders, Gab Venne '22, Sammy Johnson '20, and Sid Molnar '22. Unfortunately, Molnar suffered a concussion in one of the first practices but hopes to return later in the season.

These three will be supported by four returning defenders, 2018 All-NESCAC selection Michaela Giuttari '20, Kelli Mackey '20, Lexi Takashima '22, and Emily Walther '21. As for the offense, Nancy Loh '22, the NESCAC Rookie of the Year in 2019, returns and hopes to surpass her last year's point total of 26. She led the NESCAC in first-year points last season and was second in points overall. Loh is accompanied by other offense weapons, such as Kate Piacenza '21, Mya Berretta '22, and Missy Segall '21 among others.

Head Coach Emily McNamara and Assistant Coach Kayte Holtz have brought in a class of eight eager first-year students. This class includes Tracey Stafford '23, Jess Eccleston '23, Allison Curry '23, Hyla Mosher '23, Maura Holden '23, Abby Kuhns '23, Maddie Hong '23, and Katherine Solohub '23. Many of the first-year players competed on teams this fall, including field hockey and soccer and will be well prepared for the rigor of Division 3 athletics.

Though we have not seen those first years compete yet, the upperclassmen have spoken very highly of them, saying they have been competing well in practice and are catching up quickly with the team's systems of play.

The Continentals will be led by Sammy Johnson '20, Kelli Mackey '20 and Alayna Trice '20 this season. The team will play eight of their first nine games on the road. Hamilton's first game is this Friday at 7 p.m. at Amherst College in Amherst, Massachusetts.

PHOTO BY JOSH MCKEE

Nancy Loh '22 was second in the NESCAC in point scoring last season with 26 points and 1.00 points per game.

PHOTO BY JOSH MCKEE

Gab Venne '22 had season-high 40 saves in the team's 3-1 win over Colby in the NESCAC quarterfinals last year.

Roster depth and experience position men's hockey for success in new season

by Michaela Giuttari '20
Staff Writer

Hockey season is upon us and the Hamilton men's ice hockey team has been hard at work for the past couple of months in preparation for this season, with hopes of winning the programs first ever NESCAC championship.

The team is coming off of a very successful season last year where they finished with an overall record of 13-10-3 and a record of 10-5-3 in NESCAC play. The team made a playoff run that unfortunately ended in the NESCAC semifinals when they lost to top-seeded Trinity 2-1 in overtime.

Although the team's top two leading scorers both graduated last year, they are returning many key players including All-NESCAC defenseman Nick Rutigliano '22, forward Nick Ursitti '20, and starting goalie Anthony Tirabassi '20. The team is also welcoming seven first years into the mix: Sean McAvoy, Sean Thompson, Cade Groton, Fred Allaire, Tommy Tanner, Nick Hawkins, and Sam MacBean. Five of these first years will be joining an offense who averages 2.94 goals per game and the other two will join a veteran defensive group.

The team has a deep bench as ten of the returners garnered 8 or more points last season. Ursitti '20 and Rutigliano '22 led the offensive charger with 15 and 17 points respectively. This year, the team will also be looking to Sterling Bray '20, Joey Moore '22, Bennett Morrison '20, Jon Beniers '21, Jordi Jefferson '22, Justin Felhaber '21, Josh Labonte '21, and Sean Allen '21 to be steady point producers.

This will be Rob Haberbusch's 9th season as head coach of the team. He currently has 89 wins under his belt and if all goes well this season, he will be looking to collect his 100th win for this program.

The team starts the season traveling to Amherst College for a game on Saturday Nov. 16th at 7:30pm and then they return home to Russell Sage Rink for an out of conference game against Bryn Athyn on Sunday Nov. 17th at 5:30pm.

PHOTO BY JOSH MCKEE

Nick Ursitti '20 tallied 15 points last season to help lead the Continentals to the NESCAC playoffs.